



St. Paul United Church of Christ  
144 East Palatine Road  
Palatine, IL 60067

# St. Paul United Church Of Christ

## The Scribe

### December 2011



Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m.

phone (847)358-0399

fax (847)358-8834



# Christmas Crossword

## *Pastor's Pen.....*

Dear Members & Friends of St. Paul,

December 25<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday this year. This means that Christmas Eve worship will be on a Saturday, and then we turn right around and come back here for regular Sunday worship the very next morning.

Because of this, the entire staff of St. Paul has spent a lot of time discussing how to schedule Christmas Eve worship this year. One of our main concerns is that having the late service (11:00) would work against people returning for the 10:00 am service the very next morning. While understanding the importance of Christmas traditions, we also were concerned about how member attendance can make an impact on the quality of the worship service itself. In general, the more people we have in worship, the better the worship atmosphere feels for everyone. Light attendance can make things feel flat.

After much careful discussion about this, we reached a decision and then presented it to the church council along with our rationale. With their blessing, we have decided that St. Paul will have 1 (one) Christmas Eve service this year at **4:30 pm Saturday December 24<sup>th</sup>**. This will be a service in which we try to combine each of the elements of Christmas that have meant so much to so many over the years: Christmas carols, the Christmas story from Luke, etc. Because it is already dark at 4:30, this will include the traditional candlelight service.

Then, on **Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am** our regular Sunday



worship will be a Christmas Day service, complete with more carols and a celebratory message.

We realize that having one Christmas Eve service at 4:30 isn't going to work for some, but we ask your forbearance on account of the way the calendar falls this year. Next year we can go back to the old way.

On a final thought about this, I would ask you – on behalf of the whole staff and council – to consider the way that the church observes Christmas. To western Christians, Christmas isn't one day – it's a season. It actually begins on December 24<sup>th</sup> and ends on Epiphany on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Most people think that Christmas is just on December 25<sup>th</sup>, but that isn't what the calendar of the church year says. On the contrary, beginning on December 24<sup>th</sup> the liturgical color 'White' is brought out and it is indeed Christmas!

For the Staff,

Rev. David Mercer, Senior Pastor

## **SERVING CHRIST IN WORSHIP**

### **Acolytes for December**

December 4: Kyra Graham & Carrie Kerlin

December 11: Carrie Kerlin

December 18: Matt Kerlin

December 24: Jeffrey Wagner

### **Greeters for December (East Door)**

December 4: Gene & Jason Morgan

December 11: Dick & Jean Kolze

December 18: Diana Langguth

December 24: Jim & Darlene Vogt

December 25: Arlene Kraus

**December Usher Captain:** Randy Everett

### **December Nursery Attendants**

December 4:

December 11: Sandra Gumm

December 18:

### **DECEMBER LECTIONARY**

**4th**—Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2,8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

**11th**—Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

**18th**— 2 am 71-11,16; Luke 147-55; Psalm 89:1-4,19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

**24th**— Isa 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-7,8-20

**25th**—Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4,5-12; John 1:1-14



**PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

**Albert**, friend of Charlotte Mally  
**Dorothy Altergott**  
**Max Arnold**, brother of Phil Arnold  
**Phil Arnold**  
**Edythe Bentsen**  
**Jim Dailey**, friend of Charlotte Mally  
**Dorothy Regan Drake**, friend of Bob and Pat Kolze  
**Linda Frahm**  
**Gehlin Family**, friends of the Drost Family  
**Margaret Gintz**  
**Glenn Harris**  
**Marian Hempel**  
**Gloria Herron**  
**Larry Herron**, son of Gloria Herron  
**Parker & Cole Hume**, nephews of Claudia and Greg Mayer  
**Sheila Hurt**, friend of Dawn Drost  
**Jerry**, friend of Jackie Schultze  
**Jim Kennelly**, father of Marty Kennelly  
**Helene Kettelhut**  
**Dan M.**  
**Dorothy Mende**, sister of Charlotte Mally  
**Paul Mende**, nephew of Charlotte Mally  
**Gladys Paine**  
**Adelyne Roeder**, cousins of Charlotte Mally  
**Bob Rogers**  
**Jennifer Smith**, niece of Phil Arnold  
**Sherry Stephens**, sister of Shirley Ann Kolze  
**Audrey Wall**  
**Fran Werner**, sister-in-law of Sharon Florey  
**Ruby Wood**, sister of Gloria Herron  
**Vivian**, friend of Charlotte Mally

**December Birthdays**

6 Ryan Peterson  
 7 Bruce Kerlin  
 10 Susan Gould  
 12 Larry Ingram  
 12 Holly Petersen  
 14 Margaret Gintz  
 17 Jeff Storm  
 18 Catherine Conrad  
 21 Kara Loconti  
 23 Brian Whedon  
 26 Linda Frahm  
 30 Debra Ori  
 30 Sarah LaBonar

*If there's anyone I missed, please call the church office,  
so we can update our records. Thank you!*



## Upcoming Events at St Paul

### **CELTIC CHRISTMAS CONCERT - December 4th**

A *Celtic Christmas* featuring renowned Celtic Singer/Songwriter Jenne Lennon will be held Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 at St. Paul U.C.C. Tickets are \$10 at the door. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the St. Paul Benevolence Fund. The evening will feature Irish Christmas Carols, traditional songs, and original pieces by Jenne, joined by guitarist Roland Labana, pianist Lisa Berkshire, backup singer Loreen Labana, the Chancel Choir and the Children's Choir.

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### **Womens' Guild Luncheon**

#### **Wednesday, December 7th**

The St. Paul Womens' Guild will be holding a luncheon at Appleby's Restaurant on Dundee Road in Palatine. If you have any Questions and to RSVP, please contact Charlotte Mally or Blanche Schug.

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### **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast— December 18th**



Please join us following the worship service on Sunday Dec 18th. Proceeds will assist with the mission trip supplies. Price: Adults to age 12 = \$5.00; Children 11 to 3 = \$3.00; Under 3 = Free

(The Mission Team is excited to have Amanda and Ellen Graham joining them this year!)

## **Pastor's Advent Study Group**

Rev. Mercer will be hosting a 4-week Advent Study to be held on Tuesdays beginning November 29th. There will be two sessions to choose from; mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 am and evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

The meeting dates are November 29th, December 6th, December 13th and December 20th.

The morning sessions will be meeting in the FOCUS room and the evening sessions will meet in the pastor's office.

(RSVP is required for the evening sessions.)



Learn  
&  
Grow

From the Health Committee...

**JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER  
EVERY CUP COUNTS**

Two ways to help



**SAVE LIDS TO SAVE LIVES**

Save your pink Yoplait Yogurt lids, wash them, and place them in the basket by the Health Committee bulletin board. We will mail them for you. Yoplait will donate \$.10 to Susan G. Komen For The Cure for each lid up to 2 million. They must be received by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. You can also donate on line by going to SaveLidsTo-SaveLives.com.

**Cups Of Hope**

Save your Dannon Yogurt lids and enter the code for each lid on line at CupsOfHope.com before Dec.31<sup>st</sup>. \$.10 will go to the National Breast Cancer Foundation up to 1.5 million. You can **only** donate online.

**Please place only Yoplait lids in the basket!!**

\* \* \* \* \*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The American Cancer Society provides FREE wigs to women undergoing cancer treatment. Just call The American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345. The operator will assist you.



**FOCUS Progressive Dinner**

**Sunday, December 18th at 5:30 p.m.**

Watch the upcoming Announcements and mail for further details!

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**Christmas Eve Worship Service**

**December 24th at 4:30 pm**

**Christmas Day Worship Service**

**December 25th at 10:00 am**

## ST. PAUL SCRIP PROGRAM

**December Ordering will be a week earlier (first Sunday, Dec. 4th) because of the holiday shipping schedule! Order will be ready to pickup on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**MANY THANKS** to those families who have participated in our 2011 St. Paul Scrip Program. From Jan. – Nov. there were 127 orders which provided \$1,719.84 towards the Wachs Fund. With our economically-tough times, the Board of Community Outreach has had many requests for assistance.

**PLEASE LOOK OVER THE VENDOR LIST & CONSIDER PLACING AN ORDER ON DECEMBER 4th!**

This is an EASY way to donate to the Wachs Fund all year round, with absolutely no additional cost to you - just for prepaying for the shopping you would do anyway! Start thinking differently about how you pay for goods and services you use each month. Imagine knowing that a percentage of every purchase you make with Scrip could be helping others in St. Paul's Outreach program.

The Wachs Fund was established in memory of Daniel Wachs by his family, to provide short term/one time monetary assistance to residents of Palatine and members of the St. Paul Community who are experiencing a financial hardship. Please consider this way to help someone less fortunate than you.

**Questions??**

**Contact Darlene Vogt, St. Paul Scrip & eScrip Program Coordinator, at 847-359-0839, online: [dvogt122@aol.com](mailto:dvogt122@aol.com) or downstairs during coffee time on Sundays.**

**Scrip & eScrip Programs are sponsored by the Board of Community Outreach: Karen Wagner, Chairman; Kim Cichon, Greg Mayer, Nancy Perry, Holly Petersen, Bob Rogers, Darlene Vogt**

## From the Community Outreach Board...

### **Compassion International Sponsor Needed**

A small group of St. Paul members has gone together to sponsor a child through Compassion International. This is the second year of sponsorship. Her name is Safiatou (Sophie in French) and she lives in Burkina Faso, Africa. She is six years old. The group is seeking one or more members to help sponsor her through the next year. The cost is \$38 per month, and you can choose to be a sponsor for one or more months. You can find Safiatou's picture and letters on the Community Outreach bulletin board on the south wall of GMH. Sponsorship involves helping to provide monetary support and corresponding with Safiatou. If you are interested or have questions, please talk to Holly Petersen.

### **Thank you From the Board of Community Outreach**

Thank you for your generosity. We delivered four full **Thanksgiving baskets** along with four grocery gift cards to the Palatine Township before Thanksgiving. As you sit down for your Thanksgiving meal, please take a moment to think about the joy you have helped to bring to families that otherwise may not have been able to share a Thanksgiving meal together.

Thank you for your abundant gifts for the two families we have adopted this Christmas through the Palatine Township. **Remember that all Adopt-a Family gifts and gift cards are due by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.** Be sure to put a piece of paper with the family member's name, the family number and your name on the gift so we can be sure to know who it is for. Please give any gift cards to a member of the Board of Community Outreach with the same information attached to them. We were able to provide each of the children in the two families with a winter coat, a gift card for a pair of shoes or boots, a shirt, sweater, pair of jeans, and several toys or craft materials. God is at work through each of you. Thank you. We will be wrapping in GMH on December 4th after worship if you would like to help.

Your Board of Community Outreach, Karen Wagner, Kim Cichon, Greg Mayer, Nancy Perry, Holly Petersen, Bob Rogers and Darlene Vogt